

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (currently amended) A compressor comprising:

5 a compressor wheel having compressor blades and being mounted for rotation on a shaft, each blade being characterized by an upstream leading edge and a downstream trailing edge; and

a shroud mounted adjacent the wheel and defining a gas ~~glow~~ flow path between the shroud and the blades from a compressor inlet to a
10 diffuser outlet;

wherein in cross-section the shroud ~~has~~ forms a surface ~~in~~ along the flow path, the surface being characterized by ~~with a profile which includes a section with a smoothly curving surface and at least one that includes a~~
relative discontinuity, ~~including a~~ in the region of the trailing edge; and

15 wherein the discontinuity forms a downstream-facing blocking face adapted to impede reverse an upstream flow of gas between the shroud and the wheel, the blocking face extending across the flow path to form a sharp edge connecting the blocking face to a smoothly curving surface upstream of the discontinuity.

20 2. (canceled)

3. (canceled)

4. (currently amended) A compressor according to ~~any one of the preceding claims comprising a second discontinuity provided in the curving surface in the region of the leading edge of the wheel~~ claim 1, wherein the cross-section profile of the shroud surface along the flow path is further
5 characterized by a second relative discontinuity that is in the region of the leading edge, and wherein the second relative discontinuity forms a second downstream-facing blocking face adapted to impede an upstream flow of gas between the shroud and the wheel, the second blocking face extending across the flow path to form a sharp edge connecting the second blocking
10 face to a second smooth surface upstream of the second discontinuity.
5. (original) A compressor according to claim 4 wherein the second discontinuity is located upstream of the leading edge of the wheel blades.
- 15 6. (currently amended) A compressor according to claim 5 wherein the second discontinuity is spaced from the leading edge of the wheel blades by a distance of the same order as the axial clearance of the ~~wheel tip~~ trailing edge from the compressor housing.
- 20 7. (canceled)
8. (canceled)
9. (currently amended) A compressor according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 4, wherein the or each discontinuity downstream-
25 facing blocking face comprises a planar surface cut into the curving surface.
10. (canceled)

11. (currently amended) A compressor according to claim ~~[[9]]~~ 4, wherein the second downstream-facing blocking face comprises a planar surface cut into the curving surface, and wherein the planar surface is perpendicular to the axis of the shaft.

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12. (currently amended) A compressor according to any one of claims 4, ~~to 11~~ 6, or 9, wherein the radial extent of the second discontinuity is of the same order as the radial clearance between the ~~wheel tip~~ trailing edge and the housing.

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13. (currently amended) A compressor according to any one of claims 4 ~~to 12~~ 6, or 9, wherein the sizes of the first and second discontinuities are closely similar.

15 14. (currently amended) A compressor according to any one of claims 4 ~~to 13~~ 6 or 9, wherein the shapes of the first and second discontinuities are closely similar.

20 15. (currently amended) A turbocharger comprising a compressor according to any one of ~~the preceding~~ claims 1, 4, 6 or 11.

25 16. (new) A compressor according to any one of claims 1 or 4, wherein the or each blocking face forms a second sharp edge on an opposite side of the blocking face from the first sharp edge, second sharp edge connecting the blocking face to a smoothly curving surface downstream of its respective discontinuity.